

ABERDEEN, WA



JULY & AUGUST | 2023

Elected Officials**Mayor**

Pete Schave

Ward 1Melvin Taylor
Kacey Morrison**Ward 2**David Gakin
John Maki**Ward 3**Liz Ellis
Kati Kachman**Ward 4**Stan Sidor
Deborah Ross**Ward 5**Joshua Francy
Debi Pieraccini**Ward 6**David Lawrence
Dee Anne Shaw**City Council Meetings**2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesday
of each month**City of Aberdeen****200 E. Market Street
Aberdeen, WA 98520**

(360) 533-4100

Monday—Friday

8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Website: aberdeenwa.gov

@Facebook.com/

AberdeenWA



Clockwise: Playground at North End Park; Softball at Pioneer Park; Fourth of July at Morrison Park; Splash Pad fun at Finch Park; Playground and walking trail at Morrison Park.

There's Something for Everyone at Our City Parks!

Summer is here and we want you to fall in love all over again with our city parks!

Did you know that Aberdeen has 20 parks spread across 273 acres within city limits? Managed and maintained by the Aberdeen Parks and Recreation Department, our city's parks include neighborhood playgrounds, fastpitch, baseball and soccer fields, tennis, disc golf and basketball courts, picnic shelters, walking trails, skate park, a splash pad and many other ways to enjoy the parks. Our residents and visitors can relax, picnic and play in our public spaces thanks to the city's Parks and Recreation Department.

I want to...	We recommend...
Go on a nature walk.	Stewart Park or Basich Trail
Take the kids to a splash pad.	Finch Park
Go for a swim.	Lake Aberdeen
Play a pick up game of softball.	Pioneer Park, Bishop Complex
Play tennis.	Sam Benn Park
Play pickleball.	Pioneer Park
Go on a picnic.	Morrison Riverfront Park
Read a book under a tree.	Sam Benn Park

"Parks are places that provide gathering places for families and social groups," said Stacie Barnum, Director of Aberdeen Parks and Recreation. "They are an essential part of our quality of life that contribute to good health for people of all ages."

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Summer is a Beautiful Time for Aberdeen



By Mayor Pete Schave

Here it is July already. Where is the time going? The last message I wrote about spring cleaning and planting flowers, washing the windows, and oh yeah, cleaning the curbs. Well, here's hoping your flowers are blooming and your curbs are clean. Speaking of flowers, many thanks go out to the Bloom Team that oversees all the flowers downtown. The baskets and pots look great. I'd also like to thank the Parks Department for watering the plants every day. Lastly, I noticed the businesses that get out in the mornings and clean around their store fronts. Thank you.

I talk a lot about cleaning. I know some of the buildings in our downtown are at a point where no amount of cleaning is going to help make them look better. I wish the city could afford to buy them and either fix or tear them down. I believe these old, dilapidated buildings stand in the way of new developments in our city. Today's business plans don't usually pencil out financially when you must buy a couple old buildings and tear them down to meet your business needs. Also, most businesses now days require their own parking lot. It's a tough dilemma. The good news is the City is slowly chipping away at these issues. We have several ordinances that we are working on to help clean up and improve the look and feel of our downtown. Outside of City Hall business, we have some major infrastructure projects that are going to mean incredible changes for the city.

One project is the levee project. This is a huge project costing \$150 million to complete and should be finished and certified by 2029. The first phase of this project is the Fry Creep pump replacement which is the work being done by the fuel station at the Port. This portion of the project is to build a new pump station to replace the old station. We also have the East Aberdeen Rail Separation project that will cost \$72 million dollars to complete. The funding for these projects is coming from the Federal and State governments which means we are bringing our hard-earned tax dollars back to and investing them in Aberdeen! Also, we are going to build a new bridge on Young Street. Aberdeen has received \$23 million in grant funding to replace the current bridge. The plan for this project is still in the works. As we look at all design possibilities, we are giving top priority to design concepts that maintain Kurt Cobain's legacy.

With that said, let's move on to all the fun things to do this summer. The SPLASH! 4th of July event will be at the Historic Seaport. Founders' Day Parade will take place on Market Street and food and crafts on Broadway Street. Summer Fest will have a BBQ cook off and other fun events. We will also have Art Walk, Glow Festival, Car Shows, and of course all the great food. Cascade Bike Club will be here July 30 through Aug. 1. All these events are made available to our community by a lot of volunteers who work hard with tight budgets to make our summer fun. If you want to get involved with any or all of these events or have great ideas to help with the summer fun, let me know by emailing me at mayor@aberdeenwa.gov.

Do I Need a Permit? Maybe. Give The City a Call

When you decide to take on a project, you probably spend time considering style, color, and whether you'll need a contractor or architect. One important step to remember: determine if you'll need a building permit from the city. If you're working with a contractor, make sure whether you or your contractor will be obtaining the permit.

A quick phone call to our permitting office is a proactive way to make sure your project is on schedule and within budget. Assuming that a permit is not required for your project can cause delays and may increase the cost of your project by adding required elements to comply with permit standards. Even if you've hired the best contractors, a quick phone call can save you the hassle. You can reach our permitting office at (360) 537-3217 so that we can help you complete your project while the good weather holds up.



City Council Highlights

The Aberdeen City Council is a 12-person council that is the legislative and policy-making body for the City of Aberdeen. Here are some of the highlights from recent meetings.

May

- The city council passed an ordinance making possession of certain drugs, called legend drugs, a Gross Misdemeanor in city limits. This is a temporary ordinance that will sunset after the state's "Blake Fix" legislation begins.
- The council approved a contract between the Fire Department and Aberdeen School District for a partnership where firefighters will teach high school students the basics of firefighting training. This fits into the city's long-term strategy of recruitment and retention.
- The council discussed changes to Aberdeen Municipal Code 15.36.040 to allow for the use of aluminum alloy service conductors and feeders. This change is to assist in reducing copper wire theft.

June

- The council had the first reading of Bill 23-07, an ordinance that establishes a program to support the maintenance

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Roundabout 101

The city built its first roundabout nearly a year ago, and we are still growing comfortable using it. Here's a quick guide to roundabout etiquette.



A slow start is a good thing

Roundabouts remove the need for red lights and stop signs, so **if the roundabout is empty**, you do not have to stop before entering. Be careful when entering to make sure you're safe to proceed. **Slow down** when you are approaching a roundabout, and if the way is clear, then you can proceed.

First come, first served

The first and most important rule of a roundabout, you must yield to drivers already in the roundabout. When you do enter the roundabout, give some space between you and the car in front of you.

To the left, to the left

If two or more vehicles approach the roundabout at the same time, you must yield to the vehicle on the left.

Remember to signal

Signaling when you exit the roundabout is not only safe, but also convenient for the person trying to enter the roundabout.

Sharing is Caring

Remember that car drivers aren't the only roundabout users. Pedestrians, bicyclist and motorcyclists also use the roundabout. There can be lots to be distracted by in the new roundabout, so please remember to share the roundabout.

National Night Out Returns to Aberdeen August 1

Neighborhoods across our great city will celebrate National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1. National Night Out (NNO) is an annual community-wide campaign to build and promote police-community relationships and neighborhood connections. NNO can be celebrated in many ways: a block party, get-together, or activities at a local church or community center.

This year, members of the Aberdeen Police Department, Aberdeen Explorers and Aberdeen's Volunteers in Police Service will be visiting different neighborhoods that are



hosting events. The goal is to strengthen the relationship between the community and law enforcement and to bring both groups together under positive circumstances.

Introduced in 1984, National Night Out is a national event celebrated in most states and in U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday of August. The event promotes police-community relations through face-to-face communications.

Let us know about your NNO event by contacting Ross Lampky at rlampky@aberdeenwa.gov. Fire and EMS and police officers would love to stop by for a visit. If you need a permit to close your road for a block party, please call the Parks Department by calling (360) 537-3248.

What's Happening Around the City?

Month	Date	Event	Location
July	4	SPLASH Festival & Fireworks	Grays Harbor Historical Seaport
	8	Founders Day Parade	Downtown Aberdeen
	8	Art Walk	Downtown Aberdeen
	13	Little League Field Remodel Celebration	Pioneer Park
	14-16	TMG Hoop Dreams Tournament	Aberdeen High School
	15	Vendor and Car Show	Broadway Street
	22	Rain Glow Festival	Downtown Aberdeen
	Sundays	Downtown Sunday Market	Downtown Aberdeen
August	1	National Night Out	Your Neighborhood
	1	Coed Volleyball Sign-ups Begin	Parks Office
	19	Summerfest - BBQ Cook-off	Downtown Aberdeen
	Sundays	Downtown Sunday Market	Downtown Aberdeen
September	1	Coed Volleyball League Begins	Aberdeen High School
	22-23	Grays Harbor Pride Festival	Historic Seaport

Council Highlights continued from page 3

of vacant commercial buildings in the downtown district. This bill was brought forward by the Homelessness Response Committee (HRC).

- There was a first reading of Bill 23-09 which amends Aberdeen Municipal Code 8.08 related to shopping cart containment and retrieval. This bill was brought forth by the Homelessness Response Committee.
- Hoquiam Police Chief Joe Strong presented a Letter of Commendation to Lieutenant Gary Sexton of the Aberdeen Police Department for his swift response to a recent kidnapping investigation within the City of Hoquiam.
- The council approved a policy for the use of security cameras as recommended by the Public Safety Committee and Police Chief Dale Green.

Meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the City of Aberdeen's website at www.aberdeenwa.gov/AgendaCenter.

City Parks continued from page 1

Aberdeen's city parks are not just for humans! The city opened a new dog park at Garley Park on the southside of town. The park has gated areas for small and large dogs. "The new dog park has been a huge success because it's a great place for dogs to get much needed off-leash exercise," said Director Barnum.

Last year, Washington State named pickleball as the State's official sport. In response to its growing popularity, the city installed new courts at Pioneer Park, making it one of three locations to play in Grays Harbor.

Feel like going for a hike out in nature? Whether you're a first time hiker or an experienced one, visit Stewart Park on North B Street where you can walk the loop and experience nature without the long drive.

This summer, the city is partnering with the YMCA and the Timberland Regional Library to host activities and provide books for kids up to 18 years of age at four of our parks. Visit www.aberdeenwa.gov for more details.

Aberdeen is home to some of the most beautiful and exciting parks in Washington state with a wide variety of outdoor spaces for locals and visitors to explore and enjoy. Take some time this summer to get out and enjoy one of our wonderful parks as a way to help our community grow stronger and closer.



New pickleball court at Pioneer Park.